AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended)   A method in a ~~data processing system (home)~~ data stream aggregation server for managing transport of [[a]] multiple data streams ~~over a communication link~~ from ~~a remote data processing system (remote)~~ multiple distinct real-time data source servers to a client ~~data processing system (client)~~ within a network, said method comprising the steps of:

     ~~creating an~~ receiving at said data stream aggregation server an initiation command that specifies a real-time data transfer association between the client and ~~home~~ the data stream aggregation server for transfer of a plurality of data streams between the client and ~~home~~ data stream aggregation server ~~as a function of a plurality of addresses of the home and remote~~ , wherein said data transfer association conforms to a transmission protocol enabling concurrent transmission of multiple related data streams to be delivered independently such that data loss in any of the multiple related data streams does not affect delivery of data in the other data streams, said transmission protocol further enabling multi-homing in which a single connected endpoint of the data transfer association has multiple alternate addresses; and

     ~~instructing the remote to transfer a remote data stream to the client using one or more of the plurality of addresses of the remote used to create the association such that the client receives the remote data stream within the association~~

     responsive to said initiation command:

        providing each of the data source servers with a range of mutually unique transmission sequence numbers and instructing the data source servers to transmit the data streams within their respective ranges;

     responsive to receiving an acknowledgement from one of the data source servers indicating that the client has received a data stream within one of the provided ranges:

        providing the one of the data source servers with a new range of transmission sequence numbers; and

        instructing the one of the data source servers to transmit the data stream within the new range.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the <u>data transfer</u> association is created as a <u>Stream Control Transmission Protocol (SCTP)</u> association and the ~~plurality of~~ <u>multiple source</u> addresses are specified to the client as IP addresses of the ~~home~~ <u>data stream aggregation server</u> using the multi-homed feature <u>of the transport protocol</u>.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of ~~instructing~~ <u>sending stream aggregation commands</u> includes providing <u>each of</u> the ~~remote~~ <u>data source servers</u> with a stream identification number and an IP address for the client.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10.   (Currently Amended)   A data ~~processing system (home)~~ stream aggregation server for managing transport of [[a]] multiple data streams ~~over a communication link~~ from ~~a remote data processing system (remote)~~ multiple distinct real-time data source servers to a client ~~data processing system (client)~~ within a network, comprising:

means for ~~creating an~~ receiving at said data stream aggregation server an initiation command that specifies a real-time data transfer association between the client and ~~home~~ the data stream aggregation server for transfer of a plurality of data streams between the client and ~~home~~ data stream aggregation server ~~as a function of a plurality of addresses of the home and remote~~ , wherein said data transfer association conforms to a transmission protocol enabling concurrent transmission of multiple related data streams to be delivered independently such that data loss in any of the multiple related data streams does not affect delivery of data in the other data streams, said transmission protocol further enabling multi-homing in which a single connected endpoint of the data transfer association has multiple alternate addresses; and

~~means for instructing the remote to transfer a remote data stream to the client using one or more of the plurality of addresses of the remote used to create the association such that the client receives the remote data stream within the association~~

means responsive to said initiation command for:

sending to the client an initiation acknowledgement signal that specifies multiple source addresses for a multi-homed association, wherein the source addresses include addresses for the multiple data source servers;

sending stream aggregation commands to each of the data source servers, wherein said stream aggregation commands instruct the respective data source servers to send real-time data directly to the client using the multiple source addresses;

providing each of the data source servers with a range of mutually unique transmission sequence numbers and instructing the data source servers to transmit the data streams within their respective ranges; and

responsive to receiving an acknowledgement from one of the data source servers indicating that the client has received a data stream within one of the provided ranges for:

providing the one of the data source servers with a new range of transmission sequence numbers; and

instructing the one of the data source servers to transmit the data stream within the new range.

11.   (Currently Amended) The data processing system according to claim 10, wherein the data transfer association is created as a Stream Control Transmission Protocol (SCTP) association and the ~~plurality of~~ multiple source addresses are specified to the client as IP addresses of the ~~home~~ data stream aggregation server using the multi-homed feature of the transport protocol.

12.   (Currently Amended)   The data processing system according to claim 11, further comprising means for providing each of the ~~remote~~ data source servers with a stream identification number and an IP address for the client.

13.   (Cancelled)

14.   (Cancelled)

15.   (Cancelled)

16.   (Cancelled)

17.   (Cancelled)

18.   (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising machine-readable ~~medium~~ media including program logic embedded therein that causes control circuitry in a data processing system ~~(home) for managing~~ to manage transport of [[a]] multiple data streams ~~over a communication link~~ from ~~a remote data processing system (remote)~~ multiple distinct real-time data source servers to a client ~~data processing system (client)~~ within a network ~~to perform~~ by performing the steps of:

~~creating an~~ receiving at said data stream aggregation server an initiation command that specifies a real-time data transfer association between the client and ~~home~~ the data stream aggregation server for transfer of a plurality of data streams between the client and ~~home~~ data stream aggregation server ~~as a function of a plurality of addresses of the home and remote~~ , wherein said data transfer association conforms to a transmission protocol enabling concurrent transmission of multiple related data streams to be delivered independently such that data loss in any of the multiple related data streams does not affect delivery of data in the other data streams, said transmission protocol further enabling multi-homing in which a single connected endpoint of the data transfer association has multiple alternate addresses; and

~~instructing the remote to transfer a remote data stream to the client using one or more of the plurality of addresses of the remote used to create the association such that the client receives the remote data stream within the association~~

responsive to said initiation command:

sending to the client an initiation acknowledgement signal that specifies multiple source addresses for a multi-homed association, wherein the source addresses include addresses for the multiple data source servers;

sending stream aggregation commands to each of the data source servers, wherein said stream aggregation commands instruct the respective data source servers to send real-time data directly to the client using the multiple source addresses;

providing each of the data source servers with a range of mutually unique transmission sequence numbers and instructing the data source servers to transmit the data streams within their respective ranges; and

responsive to receiving an acknowledgement from one of the data source servers indicating that the client has received a data stream within one of the provided ranges:

> providing the one of the data source servers with a new range of transmission sequence numbers; and
>
> > instructing the one of the data source servers to transmit the data stream within the new range

19.   (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of Claim 18, wherein the data transfer association is created as a Stream Control Transmission Protocol (SCTP) association and the ~~plurality of~~ multiple source addresses are specified to the client as IP addresses of the ~~home~~ data stream aggregation server using the multi-homed feature of the transport protocol.

20.   (Currently Amended)   The article of manufacture of Claim 19, wherein the step of ~~instructing~~ sending stream aggregation commands includes providing each of the ~~remote~~ data source servers with a stream identification number and an IP address for the client.

21.   (Cancelled)

22.   (Cancelled)

23.   (Cancelled)

24.   (Cancelled)

25.   (Cancelled)

26.   (Cancelled)